## PRESS RELEASE

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## New Visa Application Procedures Coming for U.S. Consulate in Jeddah

Due to the dramatic surge in student visa applications, the U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah is considering alternate solutions to make the visa application process as easy as possible given the increase in demand. "I want to congratulate Saudi students who have received scholarships from the Ministry of Higher Education," said U.S. Consul General Tatiana Gfoeller. "I know they are very eager to get visas," added Leigh Carter, Counselor for Consular Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh. "I am aware of the urgency for students and am always looking to improve our services. We will announce the details of the new visa application process for the U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah as soon as changes are finalized."

With the high demand for visas, the Consulate encourages everyone with plans to travel to the U.S. to expedite the process by completing all visa forms in advance on the Internet: <a href="http://evisaforms.state.gov">http://evisaforms.state.gov</a>.

Only residents of Saudi Arabia's Western province, including students, tourists, business travelers and others who plan to travel to the United States may apply for a non-immigrant visa (NIV) at the U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah. Applicants will be invited through the gate individually. Official hours start at 8:00am and applicants may enter until maximum capacity is reached, but no later than 9:30am. The U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah will be closed to walkin visa applicants November 1st through 13th.

Visa application forms must be answered completely, correctly and clearly. More details about visas and specifics for applying at the U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah are available on the Internet, via email or by phone:

Website: http://jeddah.usconsulate.gov

Email: JeddahVisas@state.gov

Phone: 02.667.0080 ext. 4145 or 4446

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